

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:1
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2001
SITUATION IN J & K AFTER CEASEFIRE
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA;DINESH CHANDRA YADAV

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the situation in J&K has not changed after the declaration of unilateral ceasefire;
- (b) if so, the reasons for extending the ceasefire;
- (c) the response of militants/Pakistan to solving the Kashmir issue so far;
- (d) the comparative number of civilians/security personnel/militants killed/injured in the violent attacks by the militants and the loss of property as a result thereof before and after the declaration of ceasefire;
- (e) whether the counter-insurgency agencies have asked for permission for limited operations against the militants;
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (g) the likely time upto which the Government intend to continue the unilateral ceasefire?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.1 FOR ANSWER ON 20TH FEBRUARY, 2001.

(a) There has been a perceptible change in the general atmosphere in the State of J&K in terms of overwhelming positive response from the public and the mainstream political parties to Prime Minister's Peace Initiative. However, except on the border/LoC the extent of violence has not seen any significant decline because militants have been hostile to the peace initiative.

(b) The Government had reviewed the entire Security Situation in J&K, particularly acts of cross border terrorism and their crimes against civilian population. It was felt that violence must be ended and peace, which has been welcomed by the people of J&K, should be given every chance. Accordingly, the phase of peace initiative had been extended.

(c) Militant outfits have rejected the peace initiative and reiterated their resolve to intensify and continue militant operations and violent actions. It is regrettable that our neighbour across the border has not recognised the need for peace and continues to promote, encourage and abet cross border terrorism. Pakistan has not shown any inclination to rein in militants operating with the backing of ISI.

(d) Militancy related incidents in J&K during pre-peace initiative period/during peace initiative period are as given below:

Incidents 19-09-2000 to 28-11-2000 to 05.02.2001
 27-11-2000 (70 Days) (70 Days)

Total incidents of violence	746	707
Security personnel killed	95	54
Security personnel injured	164	214

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No.1 FOR 20.02.2001

Civilians Killed 134 201

Civilians injured	182	374
Militants Killed	389	153

Damage to properties in October-November, 2000 as compared to December, 2000-January, 2001 and as reported by State Government is as given below:

Type of property	Pre-peace initiative (Oct.-Nov. 2000)	During Peace Initiative (Dec, 2000-Jan.,2001)
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Government building		13
Educational building		7
Private houses	93	50
Shops	1	23
Hospital		1

(e)and (f): No, Sir. However the Security Forces have worked out a strategy for the period during which the peace initiative is in force. This includes continued anti-infiltration operations at the International Border and Line of Control, area domination and other stepsfor the protection to minorities, scattered and remote populations, protection of vital installations and security camps etc. and at the same time refraining from initiation of combat operations against the terrorists in the hinterland. Crime as well as law & order issues are continuing to be dealt with as per the law of the land.

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No.1 for 2001

The security scenario is being constantly monitored and the security forces have been instructed to remain fully vigilant in order to react appropriately to any hostile action by the militants during the extended and continued period of the Ramzan Peace Initiatives.

(g) : The present extension of the Ramzan peace initiative is upto February 26th. Any continuation of the peace initiative will depend upon a comprehensive assessment of all relevant factors including the ground level situation in J&K, which is being periodically reviewed at the highest levels.